Literature, Music, Art, and Social and Personal Notes.

Social and Personal

Ir. Robert Kern is visiting friends in

Norrolk.

Misse: Afice Hotchkiss, Ressle Ellyson and love Bowe leave this week for Niagara Palls and Canada.

Maymont, has returned in Staunton.

Miss Mary T. Greenhow is visiting at the home of Mr. W. McK. Boyd, in Mathews county.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles L. Siegel, Master Charles Slegel, and little Miss Grace Balker Stepel leave to-day for Gld Point and Mathews county.

Mr. Harold English is visiting friends in Newport News.

Mr. Charles E. Helvin, of South Third street, has returned home from a short business trip to Newport News.

Dr. Irvin B. Smith will leave Monday ovening for Old Point Comfort. Mr. George N. Skipwith left yesterday for Ocean View.

Mrs. W. T. Hancock and her two daughters, Misses Lenn and Palsy Han-cock, are at the Greenbrier White Sul-phur Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Grundy have taken a cottage for the season at the Green-brier White Sulphur Springs.

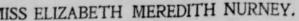
Mrs. J. L. Sydnor and Miss Rosalie Baros left Friday for a short visit to Ashland.

Mrs. Robert S. Christian will leave the first of August for Crozet, Albemarie county, to spend the remainder of the summer.

Mrs. Preston Moore, of New York, is visiting friends in the city.

Major Norman V. Randolph continues ver wick with acute inflammatory rhou-matism. As soon as he is able to travel be will leave for liuffalo Springs.

Dr. Charles I. Steel, the president of the Virginia State Denial Association, will leave Monday to attend a meeting of that body, at Old Point Comfort. Judge and Mrs. L. L. Lowis will leave hortly for the Hot Sprin s to attend he annual meeting of the Bar Associa-





Books and **Authors**

I'm dyin for the comin o' the swallow."

ISLAM IN AFRICA: Anson P. Atter.

Literary Notes.

Literary Notes.

No short poem of the past decade, excepting possibly "The White Man's Burden," by Kipling, has caused so much comment as Edwin Markham's now celebrated poem, "The Man With the Hoe." In the July "Bookman," Mr. Markham tells the history of the writing of the poem as follows:

"It was a visit I made to a loan each billion in San Francisco, some ten years ago, where I saw for the first time Millel's great painting. The Man with the Hoe," perhaps the most impressive product of any painter's genius in modern times. This picture is more terrible to me than anything in Dante. It is just as hopeless, and its scene is more real, more human. I sat for an hour before the painting, and all the time the tenor and power of the picture were growing upon me. I saw that this creation of the painter was no mere peasant, no chance man of the fields, but he was rather a type, a symbol of the toller brutalized through long ages of industrial oppression I saw in this peasant the slow but awful degradation of man through endless, hopeless and joyless labour. I saw in this peasant betrayed humanity, for, Cain to the contrary, notwithstanding, we are all more or less our brother's keeper.

"This picture lived in my memory for

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"This picture lived in my memory for ten years, until during my last Christmas vacation I wrote out the impression of it that had been springing up through my soul all those years. Then I happened to be present at a literary event in San Francisco, just after I had received a typewritten copy of the poem, and on being pressed to read it to help out the evening I did so. A proposal to publish the poem in San Francisco was shortly afterward made to me, which I accepted, as I was giad of the opportunity to make the truth that I stand for better known to my own people."

Mr. Vaughan Kester, in the "Sunny

Mr. Vaughan Kester, in the "Sunny South" describes an interview with Howells, from which the following is taken:
When we touched on poetry Mr. Howells said: "If I were asked hat seemed to be the most significant tendency of literature, I should say that it was the gradual decline of interest in poetry. I have spoken of it as the twilight of noetry. When I began to write, young people read Byron. Byron was, indeed, a craze. A little later everyone read Emerson, Hawthorne, Tennyson, and Whittier. People of literary taste were really fond of poetry. They committed it to memory; they talked about it. But now all that seems to be changed. Browning apparently closed the poetical cycle. This evanescence of poetry seems to me to be the most marked change in imaginative literature."

A contributor to the Academy adds another to the Browning reminiscences, which shows the modesty of Browning. It appears that at the time when the son of the poets was beginning his public career as a painter, the surviving parent was full of anxiety as to the effect of his first exhibits. "People expect so much from him, poor fellow," said Mr. Browning, Phaeause be had a cleve mother."

A contributor to the Academy adds another.

Music is the art of the proposition of the most cent and delightful presents given us.—Latther

Music so softens and disarms. That not an arow doth resists in the proposition of the proposition of the proposition. The proposition of the propos

Artists.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

Sir John Stainer, the povernment's chief inspector of music, professor of music in Carford, declares that in England the protession is altogether overstocked, and that at serious crists is at hand. Great numbers of musicians of character and attainments are on the verse of starvation for want of employment.

ment.

On the young people who are flocking to the profession in crowds, a vast majority have not the most remote chances of even moderate success. He declares that hardly half a dozen composers in England can live by writing music. He says that nobody, unless exceptionally endowed, should think of the musical profession as a career.

A "Progressive Method" for plano has just come from the press of M. Witmark & Sons, in New York. The author of this new work is Mr. Edward Holst, a composer and musician of mational reputation.

It is a well-known fact that the ma.

utation.

It is a well-known fact that the majority of scholars, especially children, dread exercises, perhaps for no other reason than that they know they are exercises, and detest the monotony of practising them.

Mr. Holst, to a great extent, has evercome this dostate by apparently doing away with exercises and substituting original compositions, in which are incorporated examples of every needed.

away with exercises and substituting original compositions, in which are incorporated examples of every needed exercise, scale and study.

Thus, this new method is very interesting; the pleasing music will secure careful application and rapid advancement of the pupil. The book is published in an attractive volume in paper cover, at \$1.00, and in board at \$1.25.

Domenico Mascagui, father of the composer, died recently in Liverno. He had been a baker, and until the success of his son's operas, lived in such poverty that he was only able, with a struggle, to allow his gon to learn the rudiments of music.

It was not until after the production of "Cavalleria Rusticana" that the family began to know prosperity.

The United States is now experting

The United States is now exporting 50 per cent more of musical instruments than it imports. The increase in exports of American-made instruments for the last year was \$403.000.

Rev. Jarosi. Venc. Vacek, of Tepi (Marienbad). Bohemia, introduces himself as a good writer of plano music in modern style by four compositions for plano: "Paigar," Valse, Marche Solennelle, and "La Fable de l'Etolle," for two hands, and "Valse Caprice," for four hands. These pleces are elegant concert numbers and valuable for instructive purposes.

When the music scands the sweetliest in my ears, truth commonly flows the clearest into my mind.—Bishop Beverlige.

Music is the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm the agitations of the soul, it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.—Luther

Music so softens and disarms the mind That not an arow doth resistance find. —Waller



THREE SUMMER MAIDS.

But when I think of the bathing sprite Who sits on a boat and dangles her feet, And isn't afraid a wave to meet Who can built a hook with an ugly worm:

And pull up a fish—and see him squirm—

A girl like that has captured me quite.

And now I behold the Chautaueua maid

With sweet firm Ho and carnest eyes—
That see the world with a learned
surprise,
And I love her true—I am afraid.